

A
DISCOURSE
TOUCHING
TANGER:

On these Heads,

1. The Service *Tanger* has already rendered the Crown.
 2. What Service it may render it, if improv'd.
 3. The mischief it may do us, if possess'd by any other Powerful Prince.
 4. Some general Observations touching Trade.
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IN A
LETTER
TO A
PERSON of QUALITY.

L O N D O N,
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1680.

A
DISCOURSE
TOUCHING
TANGER.

Honour'd Sir,

I Remember at our parting I made you a promise to gratifie your Curiosity the best I could, with an Abstract of my Judgment and Observations touching His Majesty's City and Port of *Tanger*; and had obey'd you long since, had not my Head been rather oppress'd than employ'd, by the unexpected difficulties of my toilsom Charge; which to this day render me so little Master of my Resolutions; that the few Minutes I borrow, like broken Slumbers, scarce afford me leave to reflect

seriously on any other Subject. Be pleas'd therefore to take this short Account only, as an earnest of what you may farther expect, when with more freedom of thought I shall be enabled to send you a Present of the same kind, better worth your acceptance.

Tanger, according to remotest Accounts, I find to have been a Colony of the *Romans*; which conquering People did from thence lead their Armies, by which they subdu'd all that part of *Africa*. They call'd a great Province by that name; and thought it so well worth their labour, that they planted, peopled, and built it to the magnitude of the greatest Cities; as we find by the Fragments of their Structures, where-ever we have occasion to break Ground in the Fields, and by the noble Aqueducts, some whereof to this day supply the Town with Water, said to be the best in the World. But by the declension of that Monarchy, it shrunk
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by degrees to the dimension it now bears.

It was here the *Moors* form'd, and from hence prosecuted, their great Design of conquering *Spain*; the advantageous Situation whereof, is thought to have not only encourag'd those Infidels to the Attempt, but lent them such Aids as mainly conduc'd to their Success.

At length, about the year 1474, while the Princes of *Barbary* were at War amongst themselves, this, with other Towns upon the Coast, fell into the hands of the *Portuguez*; &c.

Upon His Majesty's Marriage with our present Queen, *Tanger* was given in part of her Dowry: a Capitulation much oppos'd by the *Spanish* Ministers, and gave that Government so much apprehension, that, upon His Majesty's sending so great a Garrison as He did upon our first possessing it (jealous what design there might be) withdrew a great part of their Army from the Frontiers of *Portugal*,

tugal, and quarter'd them along the Coast of *Andaluzia*, to have an eye upon our Motions : by which State-contrivance, as is thought, of the *Portuguez*, they got the respite of one whole Campaign from the Incursions of the *Spaniard*. This I the rather mention to excite our own value for *Tanger*, which barely our possession of, gives other Princes so much caution.

This sufficing for the Historical part of *Tanger*, to the time of His Majesty's possessing it ; I will now proceed, with the brevity of a Letter, to treat upon the four following Heads, *viz.*

The Service *Tanger* has already rendred the Crown.

What Service it may render it, if improv'd.

Upon The mischief it may do us, if possess'd by any other Powerful Prince.

Some general Observations touching Trade.

Tanger

Tanger is, as I have observ'd, so advantageously Situated, that it Surveys the greatest Thorough-fare of Commerce in the World; having in one view almost the whole Sea comprehended between the Four Capes of *Travalgar*, *Gibraltar*, *Spartel*, and *Ceuta*; those on the *European*, these on the *African* shore: so that no Ship or Vessel can pass in or out of the *Mediterranean*, unobserv'd from thence.

It comes therefore to pass, by means of this narrow Gap or Inlet, that Men of War, Pirates and Corsairs of all Nations, covet to Ply and Cruiz in and about that Station; where they are sure to speak with all Ships that pass.

Here it was, that a Squadron of the *Dutch* on two several occasions, during that War, lay in wait for our *New-found-land Fleet*, who had no recourse for safety but to *Tanger*, where they were protected and secur'd, till the danger was over: the greatest part

part whereof had otherwise demonstrably fallen into the Enemy's hands.

It was on this Station that Sir *Thomas Allen*, during the first *Dutch War*, incounter'd their *Smyrna Fleet*; and here, in the last War with *Algier*, a whole Squadron of *Turks* fell into our hands at once, and were all destroy'd: and both then, and since by Sir *John Narbrough*, there has been by a manifold degree more mischief done to that Enemy on this Station, than in all the Ocean besides: and we have frequent Examples of single Ships being chased into this Port for shelter.

To this Port, upon the breaking out of the last *Dutch War*, was sent us advice of a Squadron of their Merchant Ships, that were bound from *Malaga* homeward, but ill guarded, with an exact account when they were to depart: which Squadron we incounter'd; and had the Affair been more fortunately manag'd, they had all fallen into our hands;

hands; though, as it was, the greatest part were destroy'd and taken.

To this place, on divers occasions both by Sea and Land, we have received notice from *Salli*, and other places on the Coast, of proper Seasons whereby to Attack that Enemy, and have often succeeded in our Attempts upon those intimations: and I think I may with good assurance aver, That by the advantage of this Place, we have destroy'd more of those Pirates, than all Nations besides put together, who have been industrious to their power to prejudice them; especially the *French, Dutch, and Portuguese*.

And yet, farther to shew you how this place has been already useful, let it be remember'd, that during the Plague in *England*, when it was penal in the highest degree in *Spain*, to hold the least Commerce with us; notwithstanding the hazard they ran, the *Spaniards* themselves came over
by

by stealth, and by degrees did here supply their wants, without paying Custom either here or there; this place being the general Magazine to all the Coast along.

What quantities of *French* Commodities were lodg'd here, during their War with *Spain*, and were by little and little in *Spanish* Vessels fetch'd over, and put on Board their Gallions when they were ready to receive them, without ever Landing them?

With what ease and expedition did Sir *John Narbrough*, the last year, Carreen and Refit the Ships under his Command within the Mole; where we had neither Hulk, nor any sort of Provision for that Service? When I often heard him say, with great satisfaction, That he would undertake to refit a Squadron in half the time, and with half the charge, that it could be done any where else out of *England*: and I think I do not give him more than his due, if I presume to

to say, He is as qualified for credit in that particular, as any man whatever of his Profession.

How many Merchants Ships, in peril by distress of Weather, have been reliev'd and preserv'd by the Assistance they have receiv'd from hence?

I could also insist on the Damages done on the *French* from this place, during our War with them.

Nor have the Advantages been small arising from considerable quantities of *English* Merchandise, Manufactures, &c. dispos'd of hence into *Barbary*: But, having an eye to my promise of writing you only a Letter, I shall in a word, as to this first Head, only say, That *Tanger* may be justly reckon'd to have gone far towards the recompensing to the Government the Charge His Majesty has been at, in its preservation and improvement. And if while in its Infancy, when there could be no just regulation of the Charge, nor the

place fram'd and cultivated fully up to the uses and ends of the Government, we can demonstrably make such a Calculation; what may be hop'd from it, when besides the large retrenchment it has already admitted in its Charge to the King, we shall be able to demonstrate so many farther extraordinary Services it is capable of rendring the Crown, as I doubt not to prove in the following Section.

Which is to shew wherein, and to what degree, *Tanger* is applicable to the ends and uses of the Government.

I think I may challenge Mankind to point me out, in the whole Globe of the Earth, a spot of Ground so improvable of the Honour and Interest of the *English* Nation, as *Tanger*.

What is it has rendred *England* so formidable, so rich, and so renown'd a Kingdom; but the Strength of our Navies, and Universality of our
Com-

Commerce? For our Fleeces might grow till they rot, and our Mines remain in the Bowels of their Mother; our People rust into the Barbarity of their Ancestors, and our Nation become a prey to every aspiring Monarch; did not this mighty *Machin* set all Heads and Hands a-work, quicken our Understandings, and polish our Manners, and from an object otherwise of pity, or contempt, render us the greatest Pattern in the World of the power of Industry, the Fountain of all the Blessings we enjoy: And because there are many various Wheels and Motions therein, why should not *Tanger* be esteem'd among the principal of those Movements which keep this vast Engin going?

First, In respect of *Spain*, in case of a War with that People; he who knows any thing, is not ignorant, that the damages we sustain by such a War, are more through the Embargo of a free and open Commerce

with them, so useful and profitable to this Nation, that it becomes a doubt, whether it be not of more account than one half of the Trade we have with all *Europe* besides ; I say, the mischief in such case will be more, by a suspension of our Commerce, than any great damage can arrive us by their Hostilities : If so, then I undertake to say, That *Tanger* is able in a good degree, if not totally, to answer this great Objection. For, by vertue of our vicinity with *Spain*, especially the five principal Ports of *Sevil*, *Cadiz*, *St. Lucar*, *Port St. Mary's*, and *Malaga*; and by the convenience of a good Harbour here, which by the success of the Mole is now well-nigh effected ; our Nation there, in case of a War, may remove, and settle their Factories here : Which both for the safety of their Persons as well as Estates, they need not be invited to do ; having, to my certain knowledge, sundry times been upon the point of taking that resolution, like

like one Man, by some jealousies they have had of misunderstandings likely to ensue, betwixt us and that People; And affairs being once so settled, the *Spaniards* themselves, as their occasions press them, will take care to be supply'd from hence; as in the Instance I have given during the Plague in *England*. By this means, our Estates run no hazard of seizure or confiscation; we shall be able to put off our Commodities at better rates; and the King of *Spain* wholly depriv'd of his Customs: *Tanger* it self becomes a proportionable Gainer by the bargain, and his Majesty's Subjects rest under the protection of their own Country Laws and Government, and in the Liberty of the exercise of their own Religion.

Thus, as on the one the hand *Tanger* renders a war with *Spain*, less burthensome to us, by so preserving the Commerce unbroken; so by its advantageous Situation, and improvement to a good Port, it would prove so

great a Thorn in their sides, by the incessant hostilities we should commit upon them, (for it is not two hours Sail from *Tanger* to the Coast of *Spain*) the hazard and obstruction of their *West-India* Trade, the ruining their Commerce one with another all along the Coast of *Andaluzia*, which would certainly ensue; and the sundry other damages by the help of *Tanger*, too long to enumerate, or not at present occurring to my observation: All this, I say, put together, seems to me to yield matter sufficient to furnish us with the highest sentiments of estimation for *Tanger*, though no other consideration were put into the Scale. For if this whole *Theory*, or *Postulata* be true, (as a good deal is prov'd by matter of Fact, and the rest not to be disproved, but as time must try;) then I may undertake to say, that our Nation seems by *Tanger* to have gain'd this great point, which is, that if heretofore the reasons touching the importance of preserving

serving our Commerce with *Spain*
 have for the most been found superi-
 our to the motives (though great)
 which that People may, by their af-
 fronts and injuries, have given his
 Majesty of relentment; those Argu-
 ments, I say, are by means of *Tanger*
 removed, and his Majesty in a better
 State of demanding satisfaction, or
 doing himself right; or the *Spaniard*
 hereby become conscious of the disad-
 vantage; deter'd from those provo-
 cations. And that they are appre-
 hensive of the benefits thus accruing
 by our possession of *Tanger*, is every
 day visible from the pains they take to
 discourage its prosperity, by obstruct-
 ing by all ways possible our supplies
 of whatever kind from thence; espe-
 cially of materials for carrying on
 the Mole, &c. whereof they are in
 great fear: So that, if positive argu-
 ments in our Favour were less cogent,
 the bare opinion they have of the use
 may be made of *Tanger* in their pre-
 judice, ought to beget in any reason-
 able

able man, who loves, and has any regard to the honour and welfare of his Country, proportionable wishes for its incouragement.

But, leaving *Spain*, let us proceed to observe what may be of remark touching *Tanger*, with respect to *France*.

The *French* Commerce with *Spain*, and their Interest in the *Spanish* Gallions and Flota, has been universally concluded equivalent to half the Nations of *Europe* beside; and they have more business in, and about this Station, and frequent the *Streights* mouth with more shipping of one sort or another, than any two Nations in *Christendom*: From whence our Ships riding at Anchor, may weigh, or slip, and speak with all that pass in or out. Now what an awe will *Tanger* bear on such a People? and what greater blessing can a Maritime Nation, as *England* is, so justly jealous of their Honour and Authority abroad, ask of God Almighty, than to be possessors

sessors of a place productive of so many eminent Services, a place capable of yielding so many good Offices to our selves, and Friends, and so much annoyance to its most powerful Enemy? This I mean, who in our Age has succeeded so far in its designs of Rivaling us, in the darling Priviledge and Prerogative of our Dominion upon the Sea; and how far it behoves us to cherish the means that Providence affords, and Nature seems to mark out for our improvment, towards the attaining of so important an end, let every honest *Englishman* Judg. And from *France*, let us proceed to *Holland*.

During the first *Dutch War*, *Tanger* was in its Infancy, the Mole of little benefit, nor were the Ministers then so much enlighten'd in its usefulness; insomuch, that during that War, the *Hollander* (especially towards the latter end of the War) did with a small Squadron of Ships, scour the whole *Mediterranean*: And what with that,
and

and the preference they then found in the *Spanish* Ports, they gain'd much upon us in those parts. But in the last War it was quite otherwise; for upon the damage we did their *Malaga* Fleet, from *Tanger*, as I have already observed, and the care then taken to have Ships upon that Station, it is observable they scarce had any Trade within the *Mediterranean* after, during the War: For the *Dutch* are a frugal and wise People; and when the charge of their Convoys grow in any degree burthensom, they chuse rather to suspend their Trade, than prosecute it with any extraordinary expence or hazard; especially that of the *Mediterranean*.

Now if *Tanger* can produce such effects in our Favour, in case of a War with *Holland*, as it has done, and may yet do in a much greater degree; and if it can be in the like manner of use to the *Dutch*, in case of a War betwixt them and *Spain*, as it has been

been to *France*, during that War; Then let us allow it an additional share in our praise and estimation, and cherish it in proportion to these farther benefits: And now for *Algier*.

Algier is a Den of sturdy Thieves, form'd into a Body; by which, after a Tumultuary sort, they Govern; having the Grand Signior for their Protector, who supplies them with Native *Turks* for their Souldiery, which is the greatest part of their Militia: And they in acknowledgment, lend him their Ships when his Affairs require it. They are grown a rich and powerful People; and by a long practice of Piracy become good Seamen; and when prest by our Men of War, as of late we have experimented, they fight and defend themselves like brave men, inferiour I am perswaded to no people whatever. They have no Commerce, and so without any taste of the benefits of peace, whence their life be-

comes

comes a continual practice of Robbery; and like Beasts of the Desert, only forbear to worry, where by fear, not honesty, they are deter'd; and yet when hunger pinches, and a good morsel lyes in their way, they will venture hard for their prey; as may appear by the occasions given by them for this, and the last Wars.

The *Algerines*, I say, having no Merchant Ships, nor any Trade of their own with other Nations, know nothing of the motives Christian Princes generally have of War and Peace; so that their polity and Rule is, whom and how they may Rob and plunder, with greatest impunity. Therefore with some Nations they will have no peace at all; because they can despoil them without hazard. With others, (as our selves) they will sometimes listen to proposals of peace; but not as long as they can reimburse themselves upon our Merchant-men, what they suffer by
our

our Men of War. Now 'tis worth ones while to consider how this Wild Beast may be ram'd, so pernicious to the Trade of the Kingdom; and how far *Tanger* may lend a helping hand in the bringing it to pass.

I have already given you an account of the advantage we have of Situation, and how improvable towards the obtaining Dominion in and about these Seas; and of the damage the Ships of *Algier* have already receiv'd on this Station, by the help of *Tanger*.

The *Algerines*, above all others, when at peace with us, do infest these Seas; this Station being seldom without some or other of them, cruizing in sight of the Port: Where they frequently come to an Anchor, and Water, and supply themselves with Necessaries, sell their Prizes, and reap great benefits by the place.

They have it also in their Instructions from the Government, to call here, and observe how the Mole

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advances,

advances, and the place thrives; and I have been told by the Captains themselves, who protest, that nothing gives them so much dread, as the apprehension they have of the use we may make of *Tanger* against them. In so much, that when the Gally arriv'd that was presented his Majesty, the *Algerines* look'd upon themselves as half undone; as the Captain of the *Mary-gold*, the last *Turks* prize, who was taken off of *Tanger* this War, assur'd me. Our Gally Frigats likewise gave them great awe, as they still do; being a sort of Vessels which by the help of *Tanger*, may be much improv'd to their annoyance. And if his Majesty would please farther to order the building of Vessels of War proper and peculiar to this Service and these Seas, he would quickly see the good effect it would produce, in bringing that People to know themselves: For though some of our *English* Vessels sail as well as the *Algerines*, when
clean;

clean; yet such are yet but a few; and we must also sail a good deal better than they to do our business upon them. Nor is it less demonstrable to me than a Problem in *Geometry*, (however it may seem not so much our present Subject) that we may build Ships that shall in a manifold degree out-sail our best Sailors: These Ships need but be few, and of little charge, and should be always kept in those Seas, both in War and Peace. For 'tis the occasion makes the Thief; and a Coast or Place unguarded is neglected: What signifies the strongest Walls unmann'd; or all the advantages of Nature if Industry be wanting in their application?

Tanger well manag'd, may be rendered the greatest scourge to the *Algerines* in the World; and hereof they are so very apprehensive, that the present War against the place by the *Alcayde* of *Alcazar*; was from their most earnest Sollicitation for it;

and engagement (which they have too well performed) to furnish him with *Turkish* Miners, and Ingineers, of those imployed against *Candy*, and with what Guns and Powder, shall be necessary for the compleat Conquest of it : and may afford them the best effects of Friendship. For if in time of War we can force them from this so beloved Station, and attack them or their Prizes bound in or out ; and in time of peace (which we cannot refuse them) they can be admitted to make use of *Tanger*, and the Port, as their occasions require ; they may perform their Voyages in half the time, and with half the trouble of returning home , to refit and Victual. For these *Foxes* prey remote from their holes : and for one Prize they take in the *Mediterranean*, take ten in the wide Ocean. So that in their return homewards, if they can dispose of their purchase at better rates here, than they can have there, and can refit again cheaper ; What should

should discourage their embracing the advantage, which will be great to them, and proportionably so to us, by the sale of their Purchase amongst us. &c.

But, says an honest man, and a good Christian, This would be a scandal to Christendom. To which I reply, It is not thought so by the most Christian King; nor must we think so, if we consider them a Government, qualified to Treat with Christian Princes, as we do; for do not we enter into Articles of peace with them, which are formally agreed to, and mutually Ratified; If so, how can we refuse them any thing, to which Friendship may give give them a Title?

Now, if what I have observ'd, touching the Government of *Algier*, bear any weight; then this must follow, that, upon conviction of the premises, they will always esteem Peace with *England* more Eligible than War; and no temptation what-

and engagement (which they have too well performed) to furnish him with *Turkish* Miners, and Engineers, of those imployed against *Candy*, and with what Guns and Powder, shall be necessary for the compleat Conquest of it : and may afford them the best effects of Friendship. For if in time of War we can force them from this so beloved Station, and attack them or their Prizes bound in or out ; and in time of peace (which we cannot refuse them) they can be admitted to make use of *Tanger*, and the Port, as their occasions require ; they may perform their Voyages in half the time, and with half the trouble of returning home , to refit and Victual. For these *Foxes* prey remote from their holes : and for one Prize they take in the *Mediterranean*, take ten in the wide Ocean. So that in their return homewards, if they can dispose of their purchase at better rates here, than they can have there, and can refit again cheaper ; What should

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Now, if what I have observ'd, touching the Government of *Alzier*, bear any weight; then this must follow, that, upon conviction of the premises, they will always esteem Peace with *England* more Eligible than War; and no temptation what-

soever (as heretofore) can be believ'd will supersede Arguments of so much force as those we have noted. If so, then upon this single bottom, separate from any the foregoing remarks, we may build reason sufficient to fortify my Position, for the cherishing and encouraging of this important place by all means possible. For if *Tanger* shall appear so materially instrumental in preserving a perpetual peace with *Algier*; then hence alone the expence of keeping it is abundantly defray'd to the Government.

For the charge of one *Algier* War, abstracted from the consideration of the spoils they commit upon our Commerce during such War; I say, the Money expended for carrying on, and supporting of one such a War, being put into Bank, would at 6 per Cent. produce more than the Annual charge of maintaining the place. If so, how may we then reckon of *Tanger*, consider'd conjunctive of all the foregoing Calculations of benefit
that

that have been produc'd in its favour
Then, as for *Salli*;

Salli is a Government depending
on the Emperour of *Fez* and *Morocco*.
They have but small Ships; the Bar
before the Port not affording depth
for Vessels of above ten or twelve
foot draught of Water. All the
Winter they lie still. For after the
South-west winds have blown, there
comes in so great a swell of a Sea
upon the Bar, that it is not passable:
So that this is a Summer Enemy,
and a very poor one too, if we
would be perswaded to have an eye
to them, as we ought. For I'll un-
dertake, with three or four small
Frigats, such as the *Drake*, *Lark*, &c.
which on occasion of Neap Tides,
when they (I mean the *Sally-men*)
have not Water to go in and out,
should clean and re-victual at *Tanger*,
and so return upon that Station;
those inconsiderable Rogues would
by such care be soon reduc'd to no-
thing: and yet, when left to their
liberty,

liberty, they do a great deal of mischief to small Merchant-men.

The benefit arising by thus awing those people (besides that to our small Craft) will be, that it will in two or three Year bring the greatest part of the Trade of *Barbary* to *Tanger*; as by reason of the plague has been already made good: For while the Infection of those Countries kept people from Trading thither, all, or the greatest part of their Commerce, was by *Tanger*: and a War diligently manag'd by those small Frigats, may produce the same effect. Besides, it will teach them to value our Friendship, and help us to a better understanding with them at *Tanger*, and in all likelihood gain us a point of great Advantage: which is, to Treat and conclude a Peace with them upon equal terms. For, to buy a Peace (as hath been the practice hitherto) is so mean and dishonourable, and gives them so much

much contempt for our Friendship, that it is not to be supported.

Now if these ends are to be obtain'd, (as I am truly convinc'd they may) it will be wholly owing to *Tanger*. Which having said, I proceed to my third and last head.

If *Tanger* be a Jewel of so many extraordinary virtues, and so peculiar to the use and service of the *English* Nation, 'twere a great deal of pity it should adorn any Prince's Crown, but his who wears it: For, it is but inverting the Argument, and the Artillery is trayers'd upon our selves, and all these Cordials become so many Corrosives. For though the bare loss, or want of these benefits, to a Nation of our Circumstances, would be misfortune enough; yet, when out of this privation of good (which is a consequential damage) shall be propagated so many more and greater positive Evils to us, than its possession
pro-

promises of service (for such will be the consequence, if *Tanger* (which God forbid) should come into the possession of the *French*) with that care and tenderness ought the Government to cherish it, and labour to secure it and the Nation, against such a hazard? The Trade of *England* into the *Mediterranean*, is equal, if not exceeding all other Nations put together. Can any thing then challenge a greater share in our esteem, than the means which insure this mighty benefit to us? Shall Princes War one upon another for the sake of a paltry Town, upon the pass of a simple River; and shall not we think it worth our while to preserve a Place of this importance: so productive of good on the one hand, or evil on the other? A place so improveable of the ambitious purposes of the *French*, that were it in their hands, it would wound us in so many tender places,

that

that as we should be always groaning under the weight, so we should never wipe off the Imputation such a loss would fasten upon us. We are just now Alarm'd with the News of *Tanger's* being to be sold to the *French*. But we have a wise Prince, learned beyond his Predecessors in the Interests and Advantages of Navigation and Commerce, and a great promoter thereof: Nor is his Royal Highness, who has signaliz'd himself so much, to the Nations and his own glory, by his singular applications to the like study, so ill possess'd of the value of this Place, to concur in any deliberations of that kind. So that I reckon this Rumor but among the other Libels against the Government.

How clamorous was our Nation upon the disposing of *Dunkirk* to the *French*, though the charge of keeping it was scarce supportable; and in case of a War with that People
hardly

hardly tenable? Though the use of it was only in some degree privative of benefit to an Enemy in case of War, but of no positive profit to us in time of peace; and yet whensoever a Privateer or two sailing out of that Port, shall annoy us but never so little in time of War, the complaint is renewed, and that proceeding censur'd a fresh: How would that Minister then be absolved with the People, who should advise the parting with *Tanger*; where our little finger would be more felt, than our loyns here?

But I have heard grave men say, *Tanger* is a great charge to the Nation. 'Tis a charge, 'tis true; but I shew what it has already done towards the defraying it; and to what an abundant degree it will hereafter come to discount the expence. A first rate Ship, in time of War, is as great a charge to the King, as *Tanger* is: And yet, did ever any body complain

plain that our Ships were a burthen, or our Fleets too numerous, when there was occasion for their Service? Does not *Tanger* live principally upon the growth and product of *England*, and the money for the most part, circulate among our selves? Is the King's Treasure mis-employ'd there? Don't we see every day the place improve; the Mole in a good forwardness? Which expence too will soon be at an end. Are there not many useful provisions made, for the encouraging of Shipping and Commerce? And are we not sensible of it, by the increase and improvement thereof? For I remember the time, when a Boat from *Spain* would draw down half the Town to the Water-side; whereas now a Squadron of Ships scarce excites that curiosity.

Legorn, now a famous Port, and Scale of Trade, was in this Duke of *Florence's* Grandfather's time a

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poor

poor-Fisher Town. Maturity is the Child of Time ; and though God Almighty may blast the best form'd purposes ; yet nothing , humanly speaking , can prevent our fruition of the great benefits I have enumerated, if we but apply the means ; which in a few words are these.

To prosecute vigorously the works of the Mole ; which in two or three years, may render it a noble and safe Port.

To fortifie the Town to the Landward ; Which work should go hand in hand with the Mole ; lest when it shall appear worth a Conquest, our weakness should betray us.

To have a Garrison consisting of two thousand Foot, in two Regiments, and three hundred Horse ; to be well and duly paid, and to be recruited once in three or four years, by draughts out of the Guards : By which means we should always have a strong, orderly, and well-disciplin'd
Soul-

Souldiery; and not Vagabonds, and raw, miserable, shiftless Wretches, such as rais'd men for the most part prove; whereof scarce the one half survive their seasoning.

The punctuality of relieving the Garrison (as has been of late resolv'd) will also keep them in heart, chearful in their Duty, and not put them upon such desperate courses, as many of them in melancholly drunken fits have taken, by running to the *Moors*, where, to the scandal of our Religion, they either turn *Renegades*, or remain in perpetual slavery. The health of the Garrison will also by this practice be preserv'd; for the Souldiers diet being salt Meat, disposes them in two or three years to inveterate ill habits of Body, Obstructions, Scurvies, Fluxes, &c. Whereof by reason of returning to the same diet again, when a little mended by the care of the Physician, they relapse; and nothing but re-

moving them to a better can recover them.

By this course, I say, *Tanger* would be the desirablest place for a Souldier in the World, where they neither feel hunger, or cold, nor excess of heat: the duty easie, unless now and then, when the Garrison is thin of men: Where an industrious man can never want work, and is no where better rewarded: In brief, 'tis a place that, in stead of a Sepulcher as some call it, will by this method become a Nursery of brave men; where, if they dye in the Field, as some now and then do, they have their reward in Heaven: If they survive to see their Country, they will be cherish'd and consider'd at home, as men of honour and merit, who have drawn their Swords, and serv'd their King and Country, against the Enemies of our Religion, and of God himself.

The

The use of Horse is of so great importance, to the safety and tranquillity of the Place, that I take it for granted we shall never be free from the insults of the *Moors*, till our Horse shall be augmented to the aforesaid number.

The strength of all the Christian Garrisons upon this Coast, principally consists in Horse: Which example alone might suffice for our instruction; for we are but of yesterday; and their practice, the result of some Ages of experience, which is the best guide.

This Town was once preserv'd, or rather recover'd, by the bravery and opportune Service of the Horse; for the Castle being surpris'd in the Night, by the Enemies privately getting in over a low and defective part of the Wall, the Horse taking the Alarm in the Town, mounted, and before they could get possession of the Draw-bridge, got it, attack'd,

and defeated them ; who had otherwise demonstrably remain'd with Victory.

I am bold also to say, and it is the opinion of others who were upon the place, That had our Horse, the day the Earl of *Tiviot* was lost, perform'd their Duty ; that great Man, and the *Major* part of those with him, had escap'd the fatal Slaughter.

With such a strength of Horse as this I propose ; we shall not be only able to perform with ease what is yet wanting for the fortifying and securing the ground we have gain'd ; but deprive the Enemy of the profit they make by the Tillage and Pasture of the Country round about us : For, they will be necessitated either to keep an Army constantly in the Field, which we know they cannot ; to lose the benefit and fruits of one of the fertilest spots of Ground in the World : or allot us such Conditions,

ditions, as shall render us in a safe, easie, and plentiful Estate, which I take assurance to affirm we shall, in such case, easily obtain.

As the benefits we shall reap by such a number of Horse, prudently manag'd, will be very great; so the hardships we shall suffer without them will be insuperable: For the ground about *Tanger* being uneven, broken, and proper for Ambushes; our Foot will never be able to do any thing to the purpose, but in Conjunction of a proportionable number of Horse, to discover and clear the ground, relieve and succour them when press'd, and secure their retreat when out-number'd, and forc'd to retire.

Our Fortifications also, relieving our Forts, and many other eminent Services, will be but very imperfectly perform'd without the assistance of a good Body of Horse.

The

The fruits of this care and charge will be reap'd, in the benefits resulting by the Trade and Commerce it will beget and establish here; for upon a secure prospect of safety to Goods and Merchandise, both by Sea and Land, and exemption from publick Charges and Duties, and a general concurrence of all circumstances of ease and expedition in Importing and Exporting of goods, will in time render *Tanger* the general Magazine of all the Merchandise from the *Levant* appointed for the Trade of the *Spanish Indies*, as it will of our *Northern* Commodities of greatest value: For the exorbitant, or rather insupportable Duties upon Goods in *Spain*, puts all People upon By-ways, and secret hazardous practices, in the Shipping and disposing of their Commodities; and while *Tanger* can yield so good encouragement, considered with the benefits of its vicinity

cinity with *Spain*, all People will covet to lodge their Estates there, where the whole Charge (besides their being out of the reach of danger of seizure) of Register Money, which is our quarter *per Cent.* there Collected, Commission, Porterage, Freight to *Cadiz*, &c. will not amount to the charge of half Freight, Guard-money, National Duties, and Ware-House Room for two Months.

But their occurs one great and dangerous impediment to the establishing this benefit at *Tanger*; and that is the disputes that may arise, betwixt the *English* Consuls in the *Spanish* Ports, and such as shall so transport Goods from *Tanger*, upon which they may expect a benefit: but this must be forbidden by all means possible, by the strictest significations of his Majesties pleasure in that behalf to his respective Consuls upon the Coast; for there are so
many

many inconveniencies accompanying such a permission, as would quite destroy all hopes of success in this affair: and indeed 'tis to be fear'd this very objection, or rather imposition, has already administred no small discouragement. But as the interest of private men must submit and give place to publick Utility; so in case it appear that this proceeding shall in any considerable degree affect the Consuls in the respective profits and emoluments of their Office, it may be recompenc'd to them some other way: But I do humbly propose it, as fundamental and irrevocable, that no Consul whatsoever of the *English* Nation, be permitted to exact or demand a peny for any Goods exported from *Tanger*, to any of the *spanish* Ports; but that a bare Certificate from the Government there, of such Goods, Shipp'd either in *English* or Forreign Vessels, shall serve as an ample acquitment

quitment, and intitle them to exemption from all scrutinies and demands of the Consuls, of any kind whatsoever.

It is also humbly propos'd, That all Ships and Vessels of War, as shall by appointment attend the Garrison and Port of *Tanger*, may have special leave and permission from the Lord High Admiral of *England*, to receive on Board, and Transport such Goods to *Cadiz*, or any where in the Neighbourhood, as the Merchants shall have occasion to imbarck; but not unless such Ship or Vessels be bound to such and such a place for his Majesty's service. By this means, Merchandise will go safer and cheaper, obtain quicker dispatch; and the Trader consequently another good Incouragement to prosecute this way of Commerce.

It is farther humbly props'd, That all Convoys outward bound which touch not at *Cadiz*, as the *Turky* Ships,

Ships, &c. may have order to call at *Tanger*; as also all such as are homeward bound: which being once become an established practice, People, as well Foreigners, as others, will lodge their Money there, to be imbark'd for *Turkey*, &c. And from the *Levant*, Merchants will load their Commodities design'd for *Cadiz*, or the *Spanish Indies*, in *English* Bottoms, to be deposited in *Tanger*, from whence they may require them as their affairs shall govern: By which means our Shipping also will be much encourag'd. This I urge not but with submission to the sense of the *Turky* Company, who are the fittest Judges how far such a practice may influence their Trade. And thus much touching Trade in general, with respect to *Tanger*.

There is no *Position*, as I have observ'd, that bears more of the evidence of a Demonstration, than that

that of the reduceableness and extirpation (by the help of *Tanger*) of the Piracy of *sallt*, and all the Coast of *Barbary*: which, besides the main benefit of relieving the general Commerce, will bring, as a consequence, the greatest part of that Trade to *Tanger*. For those small Frigats as shall be employ'd against *sallt* (with whom it is presum'd we are never to have a peace, upon no consideration whatsoever) shall have it in their Instructions (as the *French* proceeded during their War with *Tunis*) to obstruct all Commerce with that people, but by way of *Tanger*: which may be done without any great offence, by compelling such as they find Trading upon the Coast, to go to *Tanger*, there to unload, in order to the searching after Contraband Goods; where, if they are found guilty, as most Traders further are, the forfeiture of their Goods, and the

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trouble

trouble that in such case will be given them, will be sure to deter them from a second attempt: if they are innocent, the vexation of being carried out of their way, their detention at *Tanger*, the incident charge, expence of time, hazard, and one incumbrance or another, will incline them either to forbear trading with *Barbary* at all, or by way of *Tanger*; where they will not fail of encouragement: for by thus obstructing the Trade of *Sallé*, the *Moors* pinch'd through the want of our Commodities, will make their next recourse to *Tanger*, where finding good reception and dispatch, and Commodities of the Country which were wont to be carry'd to *Sallé*, having no vent there, will fail; and the stream of Commerce of course be diverted hither; and when once the Road is beaten, it will not be easily broken. This too, as it brings the *Moors* to seek us,

will consequently draw such as were wont to Trade to *Salli*, to *Tanger*.

But it must be the care of the Government here, to discourage to the utmost the residence of *English* Factories any where upon the Coast, but at *Tanger*: by which means mens persons and Estates are secure against the insolence and Caprice of that Barbarous People; who, upon trivial and unjust pretences, make seizure of all; whereof we have recent Instances, the effect whereof we yet feel, and we at *Tanger* often become as it were Hostages, and compell'd (neither to the praise of our Honour, or Politicks) to make such Concessions as are both dangerous and scandalous, and all out of a tenderness to a stubborn, opinionative People, who like some Animals, rather than make a step out of their own way, will go over a House.

And here I may not omit to observe, that, as generous a people as we are, there are yet among us a sort of Men of the most degenerate abandon'd Principles; who continue that sordid, or rather impious practice of supplying these Infidels with Powder, Guns, and all sorts of Warlike Stores, even while we are in actual War with them: both by Sea and Land; against not only the Law of Nations, but even Humanity it self; which guilty, scandalous, and unchristian proceeding I trust to see punish'd, as it deserves; and if our laws prove defective, in that particular, our Legislators may be humbly mov'd to find expedients in this behalf.

The next useful Consideration towards the Improvement of the place, is to encourage, by all means possible, the Magistracy and Civil Government; and this will invite
 bndA c E People

People of Substance to settle and abide here: the reputation of our Justice and Probity, will be a means of supplying us with a greater number of able and honest Citizens; and those will support the honour of our Courts, and maintain the dignity of a Corporation. This is very essential to the Establishment of new beginners, as we are; and of all points, the hardest to compass.

In the next place, it is my humble opinion, that his Majesty might be prevail'd with to let Leases to the Inhabitants, for such a term of years as might encourage them to rebuild their dwellings, which are much decay'd, and will fall to the ground, unless some such provision be made to prevent it: and this, in time, will also much increase the pullick Revenue.

I do farthermore humbly observe,
 That the want of a positive Decision,
 touching the Freedom of the Port,
 has occasion'd much contention and
 inconvenience amongst us, and
 great hurt to the Place: For unless
 it be understood to be a free Port, as
Legorn, Marsellis, &c. which places
 ought to be our Rule and Example
 in that particular; we shall be ra-
 ther a Trap and a snare to People,
 than an encouragement and protecti-
 on. For many an honest Man's
 misfortunes have reduc'd him to
 poverty; and when invited hither,
 by a notion of that Freedom and Li-
 berty which other Ports, bearing
 that Title, yield to such as put them-
 selves under their Protection, in
 hopes of a peaceable application to
 the repairing their broken Fortunes,
 they shall be here vext and molested
 with Suits and Imprisonment; Peo-
 ple will shun us, as an infected place:
 and that great benefit which other
 Ports

Ports of this sort reap, and is so essential to the growth and prosperity of this, is forfeited. I would not here be understood to make *Tanger* a Den of Thieves, where *Barataria*, and other infamous practices of ill men, should have encouragement; but humbly propose only, that our Superiours would please to inform themselves, wherein those Ports which are call'd Free differ from others, and what those Exemptions and Priviledges are which give them that Name; and from thence form and establish such a Constitution, as may for ever put us out of pain: for this Constructive, or rather equivocal Freedom, as I may call it, which we have hitherto been under, can never turn the place to account.

I might farther multiply instances, wherein, in time, by the Wisdom and Favour of Authority, and the care and industry of the People, this

this Place may be render'd productive of sundry profitable improvements, touching Trade, Manufactures, Fisheries of *Tunny*, *Anchovas*, &c. which in the end would support the Government: But I here put an end to your trouble, summing up all in this short Animadversion.

That *Tanger*, like the usefullest Elements, as it may be made an admirable Servant; so it may be render'd a severe Master. 'Tis an outwork of the Nation, which you know is a principal strength of a Fortrefs; 'tis a safe port, a Magazine, a Scale of Trade, and a Community of brave and Loyal Men, where there is no appearance of Faction against either Church or State. 'Tis a place improveable to the utmost degree of the Interest and Honour of the *English* Nation, of Vexation and Damage to our Enemies, and Service to our Friends; and consequently of influencing our Treaties.

Treaties and Alliances, with the most powerful of our Neighbours. I have often heard the Earl of *Sandwich* observe all this, and more of *Tanger*; with whom it had so superlative an esteem, that he was wont to say, If it could be Wall'd and Fortifi'd with Brass, it would repay the charge: and I doubt not, if our misfortunes or Sins do not prevent it, but posterity, in the Annals of our History, shall read the Acquisition and Improvement of *Tanger* among the Felicities of His Majesty's Reign; whom God Almighty prosper, and send us a happy meeting; which is the constant prayer of,

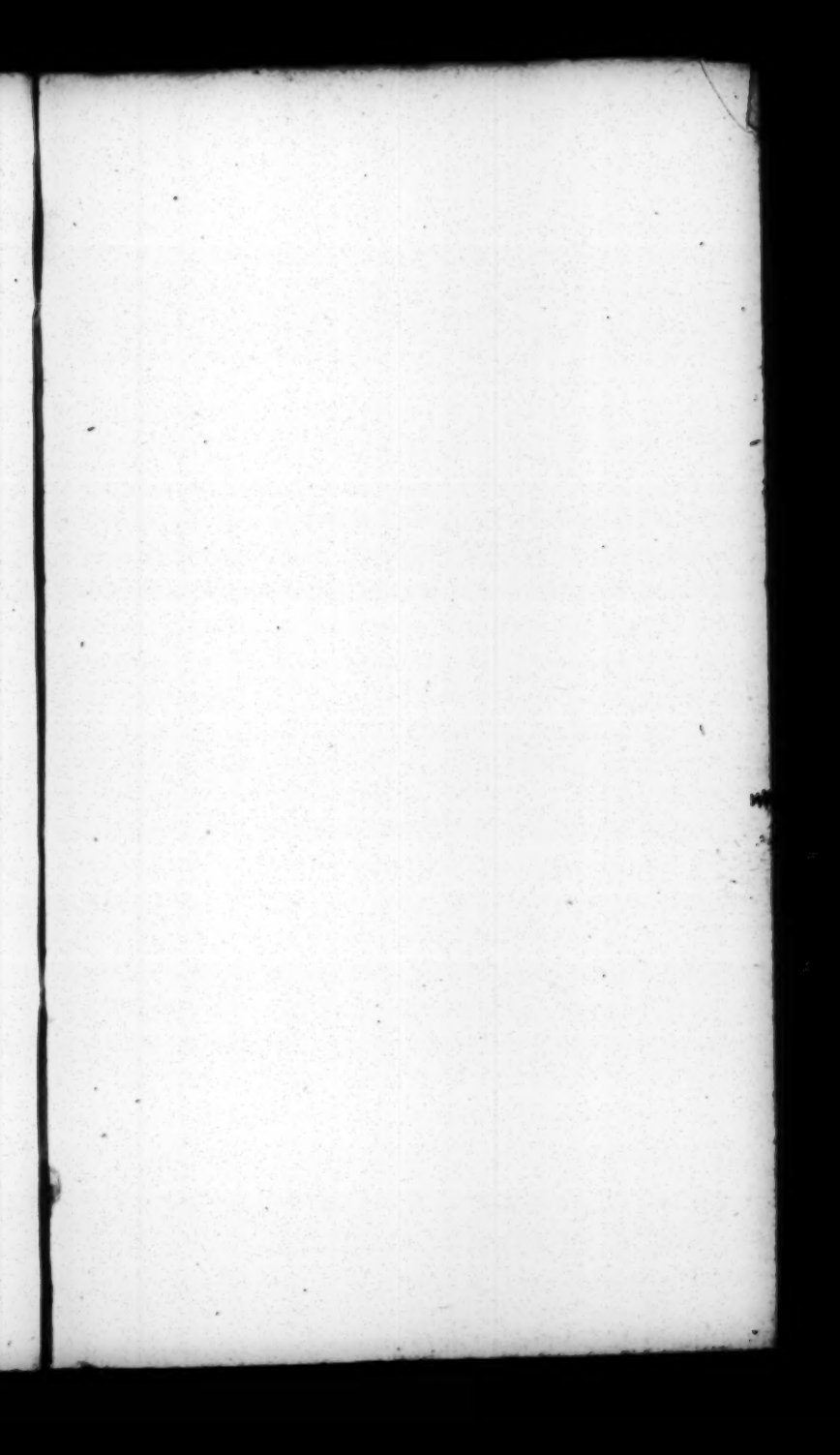
Tanger,
Octob. 20.
1676.

Honoured Sir,
Your most humble
and faithful Servr.

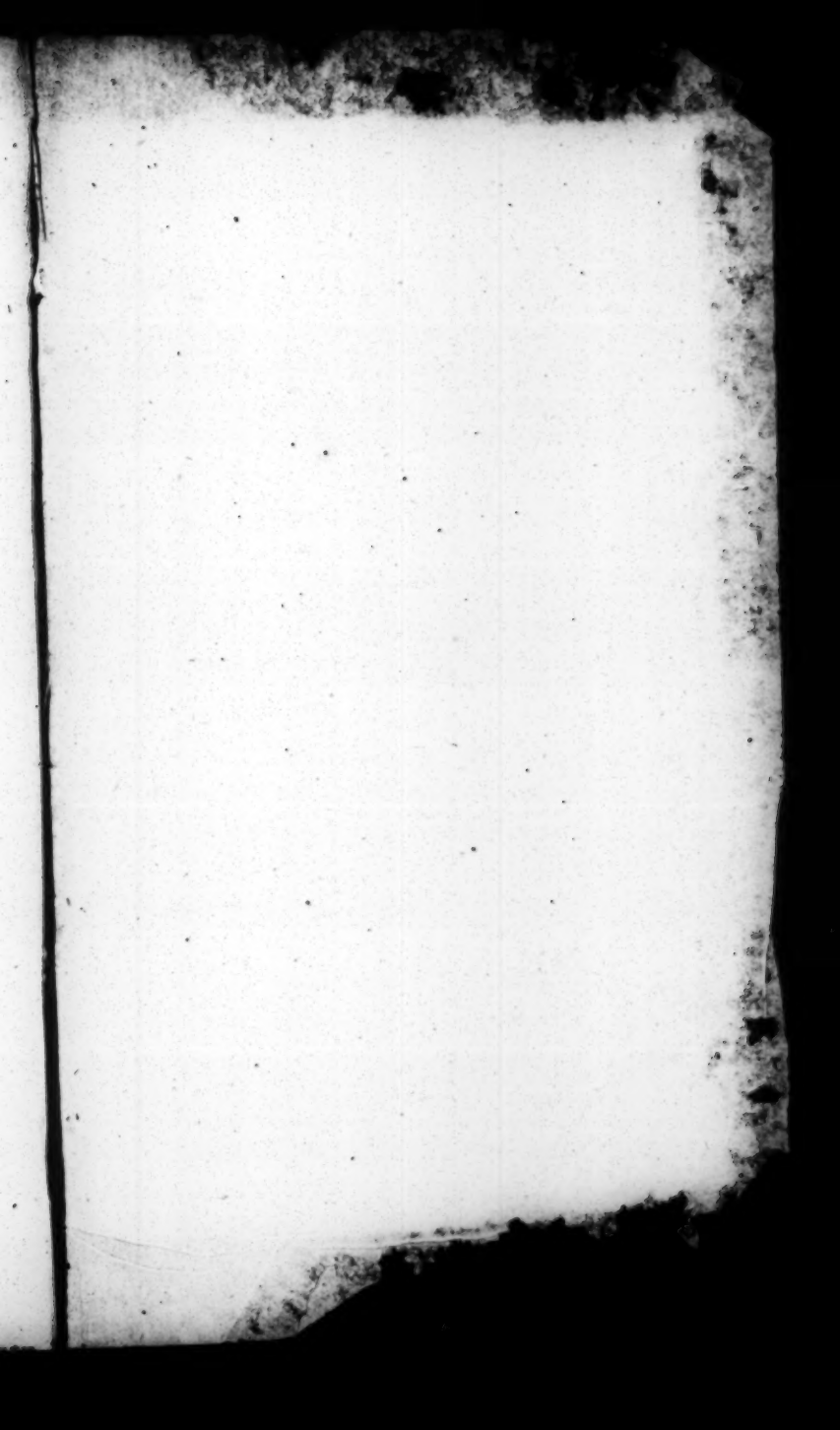
F I N I S.

Treaties and Alliances, which the most
 powerful of our Neighbours. I have
 often heard the Earl of Essex say of
 the late King, and myself, that we
 with whom it had to be expected an
 effect, that he was wont to say,
 It is good to be World and Favour
 with him, it is worth the
 charge: and I don't not, if the
 misfortunes or sins do not prevent
 it, but posterity, in the Annals of
 our History, shall read the Acquisi-
 tion and Improvement of Taxes
 among the Policies of His Majesty's
 Reign; whom God Almighty pro-
 sper, and let us as a happy meeting;
 which is the constant prayer of

James
 Obedient
 Your most humble
 and faithful Servant



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